**Pediatric Board Review**

**Allergy & Immunology**

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**Goal of Talk**

Identify common pediatric allergic diseases
Discuss the presentation and diagnoses of primary immunodeficiencies
Ninety percent of the audience will be awake at the end of the talk

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**APC**

Th1

Th2

Naive T cell

T cell

T Regulator

B cell

Neutrophils

TNF

IL-12

IL-4

IL-9

IFN

T Regulator

MA

GM-CSF

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When to consider an immunodeficiency

Unusual infections (recurrent and severe) – abscess, pneumonia, sinusitis, thrush
Unusual bugs
Antibiotics don’t help, need IV antibiotics
Failure to thrive
Family history of immunodeficiency

What is a normal number of infections?
Usually 6-8 colds per year
Children attending daycare or have siblings in school tend to have more than others
Not unusual to have 6 otitis or 2 gastroenteritis in first few years

A 5 yr old is admitted to the hospital with his 4th pneumonia. He has a history of recurrent OM and sinusitis diagnosed by CT scan. His heart sounds are heard better on the left side of the chest. The best test to confirm his diagnosis is:

A) serum immunoglobulins
B) T cell subsets
C) a sweat test
D) CH 50
E) ciliary biopsy

Primary Ciliary Dykinesia (immotile cilia syndrome) (Kartagener syndrome)

• Present with recurrent om, sinusitis and pneumonia
• Situs inversus
• Nasal polyps
• Bronchiectasis (Tram track lines on CTscan)
• Dx made with ciliary biopsy
The Immune System

- T cells
- B cells (that make immunoglobulins)
- Phagocytic system (neutrophils and macrophages)
- Complement

A 2 year old presents with recurrent bacterial and viral infections. The most appropriate initial tests to be performed are:

- A) immunoglobulin subsets
- B) candida and tetanus skin tests
- C) B & T cell subsets
- D) complement 50 assay
- E) CBC and immunoglobulins

Work up of Immunodeficiencies

- 70% of Immunodeficiency syndromes have immunoglobulins that are abnormal
- CBC with differential allows us to look at neutrophil & lymphocyte count, and platelets
Primary Immune System Defects Present With

- T cells – viral & fungal infections
- B cells – recurrent bacterial infections
- Phagocytic system - cellulitis, skin abscesses, pneumonia, periodontal disease
- Complement - c5-9 Neisserial infections
  C1,2 & 4 - recurrent bacterial infections & SLE

B cell Work Up

- CBC with diff
- Quantitative Immunoglobulins
- Pre & Post vaccination titers
- Isohemmaglutinin testing (antibodies to AB blood antigens)

Work up of Immunodeficiencies

- T cell - Cell mediated immunity – delayed type hypersensitivity intradermal skin test candida, tetanus, mumps, trichophyton. Other measures include lymphocyte count, T cell subpopulations by flow cytometry and lymphocyte stimulation tests
- Dihydrorhomadine flourescence (DHR 123) measure neutrophil respiratory burst and is replacing the NBT test that diagnoses Chronic Granulomatous disease
Work up of Immunodeficiencies

- Complement deficiencies only make up 2% of primary immunodeficiencies
- Total Complement assay (complement 50 or CH 50) measures the intactness of the classic complement pathway. Deficiencies from C1 through C9 can be picked up with this test.

A 16 yr old is admitted with fever, headache, lethargy, nuchal rigidity, and a petechial rash. He was diagnosed with Neisseria Meningitides twice in the past. The best test to perform to make the DX is:

1) CH 50  
2) serum immunoglobulins  
3) Immunoglobulin subsets  
4) HIV test  
5) T cell stimulation test

A 14 month old presents with severe eczema, recurrent otitis, Strep Pneumo pneumonias. Blood tests reveal thrombocytopenia and small platelets. The most likely diagnosis is:

A) X linked severe combined immunodeficiency  
B) DiGeorge syndrome  
C) Wiskott-Aldrich syndrome  
D) Chronic granulomatous disease  
E) Brutons X linked agammaglobulinemia
Wiskott-Aldrich syndrome

- Prolonged bleeding after circumcision, bloody diarrhea
- Recurrent infections and significant eczema that begin prior to 1 year of age
- Small platelets and Thrombocytopenia
- Treatment: IV gammaglobulin, prophylactic antibiotics, Identical bone marrow transplant

Brutons X linked agammaglobulinemia

- Defect in the B cell tyrosine kinase protein (In many cases)
- Decrease in B cells production
- Severe hypogammaglobulinemia
- Small or absent tonsils
- Sinopulmonary infections after 6 months of age
- Tx – IVIG

CVID - Common variable immunodeficiency

Similar presentation to Brutons (sinopulmonary infections) but occurs in the older child or adult
Not as severe hypogammaglobulinemia as Brutons
Diarrhea due to Giardia
Normal B cells
Tx – IVIG
Transient Hypogammaglobulinemia of Infancy

- All children need several years for immunoglobulins levels and antibody responses to become normal
- Small number of children with recurrent infections have been found to have low immunoglobulin levels that eventually normalize
- Have ability to form specific antibodies in response to immunizations
- Have normal immunoglobulin levels by 2-4 years
- Need to compare levels based on age – some lab reference ranges are adult levels

Chronic Granulomatous Disease (CGD)

- Disorder of phagocytic system
- Inability to kill catalase positive organisms (Staph aureus, Serratia, Burkholderia cepacia, Salmonella, Aspergillus, & Candida)
- Recurrent lymphadenitis, skin infections, hepatic abscesses & osteomyelitis
- Tx: Cure – bone marrow transplant
  - Supportive care: interferon gamma and prophylactic antibiotics
  - Diagnostic DHR 123 or NBT test

Leukocyte adhesion defect (LAD)

- Delayed separation of umbilical cord
- Elevated WBC count
- Recurrent necrotic infections of skin, mucous membranes, GI tract

- 2 types
- LAD-1 – defect or deficiency in CD18
- LAD-2 – defect in fucose metabolism (rare)
DiGeorge Syndrome

- Genetic disorder linked to chromosome 22q11.2 & dysmorphogenesis of the 3rd and 4th pharyngeal pouches
- Can have a partial or complete DiGeorge
- Can present in infancy with hypocalcemic tetany
- Aortic arch and cardiac defects
- Hypoplastic mandible, defective ears, and a short philtrum, absent thymus
- Recurrent viral, bacterial and fungal infections
- Tx: Bone marrow or thymic transplant

Ataxia Telangiectasia

- Telangiectasia of conjunctivae and skin
- Cerebellar degeneration and ataxia
- Dysarthria, nystagmus, choreoathetosis
- Recurrent sinus, ear, and pulmonary infections
- Decrease in IgA & IgE
- Low lymphocyte count with poor mitogen stimulation response
- Abnormal delayed type hypersensitivity

SCID (severe combined immunodeficiency)

- Onset in early life
- Medical emergency
- Recurrent sepsis, pneumonia, otitis, rash, diarrhea
- Opportunistic infections – PCP, Candida
- FTT when infections begin
- Severe lymphopenia – no lymphoid tissue, no thymus
- Death by age 2 years
- Treatment: stem cell transplant
- Many different mutations
Pathophysiology of Sensitization to Allergen

Late phase reaction
Priming
Hyperresponsiveness

Early Inflammation
Late Inflammation

Histamine
Leukotrienes
PAF
Prostaglandins
ECF
NCF

Mast Cell
Eosinophil

- PAF
- LTC4
- Major Basic Protein
- Cationic Protein

Immediate and Late Reactions in IgE-mediated Hypersensitivity

Gell and Coombs Allergic Mechanisms

Immediate Reactions

Late Reactions

STEP 1 Sensitization

STEP 2 Early Phase Minutes (A)

STEP 3 Late Phase Hours (B)

Antigen

Antibody

Cytotoxic Cell

Complement

Thrombocyte

Type I

Type II

Type III

Type IV
Classification of Allergic Diseases

- Type I - allergic rhinitis/conjunctivitis, allergic asthma, anaphylaxis, drug reactions, latex allergies, venom allergies, hives, food allergies
- Type II – autoimmune hemolytic anemia
- Type III – serum sickness (PCN, Ceclor)
- Type IV – contact dermatitis (chemicals in latex gloves, latex, poison ivy, nickel)
- Other – direct mast cell release

An 18 yr old presents with hives, pruritis, SOB, after eating at a seafood restaurant. There is a history of a shrimp allergy but he ordered tuna. His BP is 120/70, Oxygen sat was 92% on RA. The most appropriate action is to:

A) Administer SC Epinephrine in the deltoid
B) Administer IM Benadryl
C) Administer PO Benadryl
D) Administer IM Epinephrine in the deltoid
E) Administer IM Epinephrine thigh
Signs & Symptoms of Anaphylaxis

- Respiratory: hoarseness, dysphagia, cough, wheezing, SOB, tightness in throat, rhinorrhea, sneezing
- Cardiovascular: faintness, syncope, arrhythmia, hypotension
- Skin: flushing, pruritus, urticaria, angioedema
- Gastrointestinal: nausea, abdominal pain, vomiting, diarrhea
- Mouth: edema & pruritus of lips, tongue, and palate
- Other sites: uterine contractions, conjunctival edema, feeling of impending doom

Triggers of Anaphylaxis

- Foods: children - peanuts, nuts, fish, shellfish; infants - milk, eggs, wheat, soy
- Medications: penicillin & derivatives, cephalosporins, tetracycline, sulfonamides, insulin, ibuprofen
- Allergen vaccines
- Latex
- Insect Venom
- IV contrast material (Anaphylactoid Reaction)

Acute Treatment of Anaphylaxis

IM Epinephrine is the first line therapy for Anaphylaxis. This is almost always the answer to anaphylaxis on Board questions.

- Early recognition and treatment
  - delays in therapy are associated with fatalities
- Assessing the nature and severity of the reaction
- Brief history
  - identify allergen if possible
  - initiate steps to reduce further absorption
- General Therapy
  - supplemental oxygen, IVF, vital signs, cardiac monitoring
- Goals of therapy
  - ABC’s
Tx Anaphylaxis 2

- Oxygen
- Benadryl IM 1mg/kg
- Steroids
- IV fluids
- Nebulized albuterol
- H2 blockers
- Epinephrine/Dopamine/Norepinephrine

Differential Diagnosis of Anaphylaxis

- Vasovagal - hypotension, pallor, bradycardia, diaphoresis, no hives or flushing
- Scombroidosis – hives, headache, nausea, vomiting, Klebsiella & Proteus produce saurine (Spoiled Mackerel, Tuna)
- Carcinoid – flushing, diarrhea, GI pain,
- MSG – flushing, burning, chest pain, headache
- Angioneurotic edema Hereditary/Acquired
- Panic attacks
- Systemic mastocytosis- mastocytomas

A 10 year old presents with an insect sting that occurred yesterday and now has redness and swelling localized to the arm where he was stung. The redness extended to the entire forearm. There is no fever, chills, SOB or any generalized response.

This reaction is best characterized by:

A) Cellulitis
B) Large local reaction
C) Normal reaction
D) Anaphylaxis
E) Toxic reaction
A 5 year old presents with hives, SOB, dizziness, and drop in BP, after being stung by an insect. Which of the following statements is true:

A. Epinephrine SC is the treatment of choice
B. The chance of having another anaphylactic reaction to a similar sting is 10%
C. This patient needs immunotherapy
D. IV Epi should be given
E. Get an allergy consult to perform testing to determine what stung him

Classification of Insect Reactions

- Immediate - within 2-4 hours
  - Local reactions - swelling and erythema extending from the insect bite (no antibiotic ts)
  - Systemic reactions - are generalized and involve signs and symptoms at a site remote from the sting
- Delayed reactions - can occur days later
  - Swelling and erythema
  - Serum sickness - fever, hives, lymphadenopathy
  - Guillain-Barre syndrome
  - Glomerulonephritis
  - Myocarditis
  - Fever, myalgia, and shaking chills between 8-24 hrs. post sting

Toxic reactions

- Usually results from multiple simultaneous stings
- Similar clinical characteristics of anaphylaxis
- Differentiation between a toxic reaction and anaphylaxis may be difficult
- Some patients may develop IgE antibodies after a toxic reaction and may be at risk for developing an allergic reaction to subsequent stings
- Reaction is probably due to vasodilation from chemicals of the sting
Indications for Venom IT

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Reaction to sting</th>
<th>Venom Immunotherapy</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Anaphylaxis (More than cutaneous reaction)</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cutaneous eruptions</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Age 15 and younger</td>
<td>No</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Older than 15</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Large local reaction</td>
<td>Not required but increased chance of anaphylaxis</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Normal Reactions</td>
<td>No</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

A 10 yr old presents with a 1 yr hx of abdominal pain, bloating, diarrhea 1 hr after eating dairy. PE normal and negative guaiac. The most likely cause of his symptoms is:

1) Oral allergy syndrome
2) Milk protein allergy
3) Allergic eosinophilic gastroenteritis
4) Lactose intolerance
5) Milk protein enterocolitis

Facts to know

- IgE milk allergies usually begin in the 1st year of life- hives , AD, & anaphylaxis within minutes to an hr of ingestion
- Milk protein enteropathies usually present within the 1st year of life with hematochezia, diarrhea, & vomiting
- Oral allergy is due to fruits & is associated with pollen allergies
- EE we’ll talk about later
- Lactase deficiencies usually present after 6 yrs of age- bloating
An 8 yr old presents with fever, arthralgia, arthritis and urticaria 3 days after completing a course of amoxicillin for strep throat. The most likely diagnosis is:

A. erythema multiforme
B. IgE mediated pcn allergy
C. post streptococcal arthritis
D. serum sickness
E. delayed PCN allergy

Facts to know

- EM classically have target lesions
- IgE mediated medication reactions usually start within a few days after initiating therapy
- Serum sickness is type III reaction that begins 1-2 wks (up to 20 days) from initiating therapy. Fever, rash, malaise, lymphadenopathy, arthralgia & arthritis

A 7 year old girl had a history of URI symptoms & fever 2 weeks ago and was given OTC medications. She also ingested broccoli for the first time. She has had this rash for 2 weeks.
The most likely cause of this rash is

A. a viral infection
B. a dye in her OTC medication
C. ibuprofen
D. Lyme disease
E. allergy to broccoli

Etiology of Hives

- Foods - children: peanuts, nuts, fish, shellfish
  infants: milk, eggs, wheat, soy (contamination commonly happens at restaurants)
- Medications: penicillin & derivatives, cephalosporins, tetracycline, sulfonamides, insulin, ibuprofen
- Viral infections can last weeks as opposed to foods
- Physical urticarias: dermographism, pressure, cold, heat, solar, exercise, vibratory
- Idiopathic
- Medical conditions are unlikely to trigger hives in the pediatric population

A ten year old presents with recurrent angioedema of the extremities and at times his throat. His past medical history is significant for surgery to R/O appendicitis but no clear diagnosis was made. The family Hx is significant for a father with a peanut and PCN allergy. The most appropriate test to perform is:

A. Peanut Rast
B. C4 level
C. Skin testing for PCN
D. SPEP
E. C1 level
Hereditary Angioneurotic Edema (HAE)

- Patients **do not have hives with attacks**
- Usually present from 3-20 years of age
- Often is discovered after the patient presents with symptoms of appendicitis
- **C1 esterase inhibitor** is deficient causing increase in kinins and edema
- **C4 is almost always low, C2 is low during attacks**
- **C1 esterase inhibitor levels are low but there is a version with normal levels but abnormal functioning**
- Treatment with C1 esterase inhibitor and other therapies are now available

A 13 yr old presents with hives for 6 months. He had Immunocap testing performed which was positive for dust mites, milk and shrimp. The hives last 3-5 hours, then disappear. The most likely cause of the hives is...

A) autoimmune thyroid disease
B) allergies to dust
C) allergies to food
D) mastocytosis
E) autoantibodies to the IgE receptor

Facts to know

- Chronic urticaria is defined by hives lasting more than 6 weeks. It is rarely caused by foods or inhalants. Positive Immunocap testing usually means very little with hives unless there is a clear history suggesting a cause.
- Routine Immunocap testing for chronic hives is not indicated.
- CU in 40% of patients is caused by autoantibodies to the IgE Fc epsilon 1 receptor
- Thyroid antibodies are associated with CU but is not the cause
A 4 yr old presents with sneezing and rhinorrhea lasting 4 days. The discharge is from one nostril, foul smelling and is described as blood tinged.

The most likely diagnosis is
A) Allergic rhinitis
B) Sinusitis
C) Nasal foreign body
D) Nasal polyps
E) Viral rhinitis

A three year old presents with recurrent respiratory infections, chronic rhinitis that is bilateral & year round. Your examination of the nose reveals these pictures.

Continued

- The most likely diagnosis is
- A) granuloma
- B) cystic fibrosis
- C) deviated septum
- D) foreign body
- E) Brutons agammaglobulinemia
A 7 year old presents with a 3 year history of seasonal rhinorrhea and congestion. His symptoms begin each spring. On PE you note pale boggy turbinates and a transverse nasal crease.

The most effective long term treatment is a nasal spray containing a

- A) corticosteroid
- B) anticholinergic
- C) decongestant
- D) mast cell stabilizer
- E) saline solution

Topical nasal steroids are the most potent treatment for allergic rhinitis

- Anticholinergic nasal sprays may help for vasomotor rhinitis/non allergic rhinitis
- Mast cell stabilizers must be used several times a day for many days before it starts working
- Nasal decongestant can cause a rebound effect when used more than 5 days
Signs and Symptoms of Allergic Rhinitis

- Sneezing
- Itchy nose, eyes, throat, and/or ears
- Nasal congestion
- Clear rhinorrhea
- Conjunctival edema, itching, tearing, hyperemia
- Subocular edema and darkening ("shiners")
- Loss of taste and smell sensations
- Diagnosis depends on a thorough patient history regarding symptoms suffered, seasonal and/or perennial patterns of symptoms, and symptom triggers
- Diagnosis is confirmed by allergy skin testing or ImmunoCap testing

Differential Dx of Rhinitis

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Diagnosis</th>
<th>Symptoms</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Vasomotor rhinitis</td>
<td>Congestion, rhinorrhea</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Anatomical</td>
<td>Congestion, rhinorrhea</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Adenoidal hypertrophy</td>
<td>Unilateral, bloody or brown</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Deviated septum</td>
<td>Discharge</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Polyps</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Foreign body</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Infectious</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Viral</td>
<td>Clear rhinorrhea</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sinusitis</td>
<td>Mucopurulent discharge, cough, facial pain, tooth pain</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
( Most common symptom of chronic sinusitis is chronic cough)

Differential Dx 2

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Diagnosis</th>
<th>Symptoms</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Hormonal</td>
<td>Congestion</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pregnancy, hypothyroidism</td>
<td>Clear rhinorrhea</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CSF fluid –cistern plate Fx,</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MVA</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rhinitis medicamentosa</td>
<td>Congestion rhinorrhea</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Beta blockers, cocaine</td>
<td>Rebound congestion</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OTC nasal sprays (AFRIN)</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
A 6 year old boy has increased symptoms of asthma each fall when school begins. He also experiences rhinorrhea, congestion and ocular symptoms during this time.

- The most likely trigger to his symptoms are
  - A) sinusitis
  - B) GER reflux
  - C) viral infections
  - D) allergic rhinitis
  - E) school stress

What allergens trigger Rhinitis & Asthma?

- Indoor allergens (cause year round symptoms)
  - Dust mites (avoidance measures)
  - Mold
  - Cockroaches
  - Pets — cats, dogs, rats, mice, guinea pigs

- Outdoor allergens (cause seasonal symptoms)
  - Pollen — trees, grass, weeds
  - Molds
  - Animals — horses, cows

Asthma Triggers

- Eighty percent of children with asthma develop allergic rhinitis, a known trigger to asthma
- GER exacerbates asthma and can be silent. Most infants will have frequent spitting up or vomiting. Older children can complain of heartburn
- School stress can result in a psychogenic cough (disappears when sleeping)
- Sinusitis also exacerbates asthma and would be suspected with a purulent discharge
- URI’s are the most common trigger in infants
- Exercise in the school age child triggers symptoms in most asthmatics
The risk factor most associated with fatal asthma is

- A) Poor perception of asthma
- B) High socioeconomic status
- C) Female
- D) Sinusitis
- E) Inhaled steroid use

Risk factors for near fatal and fatal asthma include frequent visits to the ER, hospitalizations, psychosocial disturbances, male sex, poor perception of hypoxia, low socioeconomic status, overuse of beta agonists.

The mother of a 10 yr old complains of her sons asthma worsening during the spring months during his outdoor basketball season. He has no symptoms during winter months and he does play football then. The best advice for the mother is to:

- A) Have skin testing performed
- B) Order a methacholine challenge
- C) Perform an exercise challenge
- D) Stop basketball and continue football
- E) Start the child on salmeterol
An allergic inner city 10 year old child has perennial rhinitis and asthma. The most common allergen responsible for this inner city asthmatic is

- A) Cockroach
- B) Cat dander
- C) Dust mites
- D) Mouse urine
- E) House dust

2 month old boy presents with blood in the stools. Started 3 weeks ago. FT, NSVD, no complications. Breastfeeding since birth with supplementation. Initially on cow’s milk formula, but switched to soy-based formula when blood was noticed in the stool. Symptoms continued so switched to extensively hydrolyzed formula.

- What is the diagnosis?
- What is the management?

Dietary protein induced proctocolitis syndrome

- Affects children in first few months of life
- Symptoms: blood streaks mixed with mucus in stools, no systemic symptoms
  - Minimal blood loss, anemia is rare
- Milk is the most common cause, soy can be another trigger (50% of milk allergic pts are also soy allergic)
- Non IGE mediated reaction
- Tx – Avoidance Most outgrow the allergy between 1-2 yrs
  Sicherer, Pediatrics 2003

Food protein induced enterocolitis typically presents with vomiting 1-3 hours after feeding. Milk is the most likely cause
The following is true concerning food allergies:

A) The NIAID recommends all infants receive peanut exposure at 6 months of age
B) The NIAID recommends all infants with severe eczema have continuous exposure to peanuts beginning at 6 months of age
C) The NIAID recommends delaying peanut exposure until 3 years of age
D) The NIAID recommends mothers avoid allergic foods while pregnant
E) The NIAID recommends certain children receive peanut exposure beginning at 4-11 months of age

A child has a history of severe anaphylaxis to eggs. The mother does not want her child to receive the MMR vaccine. The most appropriate course of action is to:

- A) Refer the family to an allergist for administration of the vaccine
- B) defer administration of the vaccine
- C) have the child tested directly to the vaccine
- D) administer the vaccine and observe in your office for 1 hour
- E) administer the vaccine and let her go home

A 5 yr old has a history of a peanut allergy. Skin prick testing confirmed the allergy. The mother asked about the child’s risk of other food allergies. The food most likely to cause an allergic reaction is

- A) wheat
- B) beans
- C) shrimp
- D) fish
- E) tree nuts
Facts to know

- Children with peanut and nut allergies are unlikely to outgrow their allergy
- There are no approved therapies to tx peanut and nut allergies
- There are centers that are experimenting with oral immunotherapy and other therapies
- Baked milk and eggs given to milk and egg allergic pts respectively, can help outgrow these allergies
- There is cross reactivity with tree nuts and peanuts

A 1 yr old has a Hx of severe gastroesophageal reflux that failed tx with multiple medications. She had a Nissen fundoplication and continues to reflux. Biopsy of the esophagus showed eosinophils. The following is true except:

A. There should be greater than 15 eosinophils per high power field on the biopsy
B. Exclusive feeding with an amino based formula usually resolves the problem
C. Inhaled steroids that are swallowed helps this condition
D. The most common food that causes this condition is soy
E. Antihistamines in general don’t work for this condition